

Department of the Navy, DoD

§ 751.22

compliance with all requirements of § 751.14(a), and may request authority for payment by message from the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MHP-40).

(c) *Effect of partial payment.* Partial payments are to be subtracted from the adjudicated value of the claim before payment of the balance due. Overpayments are to be promptly recouped.

§ 751.15 Reconsideration and appeal.

(a) *General.* When a claim is denied either in whole or in part, the claimant shall be given written notification of a the initial adjudication and of the right to submit a written request for reconsideration to the original adjudicating authority within 6 months from the date the claimant receives notice of the initial adjudication of the claim. If a claimant requests reconsideration and if it is determined that the original action was erroneous or incorrect, it shall be modified and, when appropriate, a supplemental payment shall be approved. If full additional payment is not granted, the file shall be forwarded for reconsideration to the next higher adjudicating authority. The next higher adjudicating authority may be the commanding officer of the Naval Legal Service Office if a properly delegated subordinate has acted initially on the claim. For claims originally adjudicated by the commanding officer, the files will be forwarded to the Judge Advocate General for final action. The claimant shall be notified of this action either by letter or by copy of the letter forwarding the file to higher adjudicating authority. The forwarding letter shall include a synopsis of action taken on the file and reasons for the action or denial, as well as a recommendation of further action or denial.

(b) *Files forwarded to JAG.* For files forwarded to JAG in accordance with § 751.15(a), the forwarding endorsement shall include the specific reasons why the requested relief was not granted and shall address the specific points or complaints raised by the claimant's request for reconsideration.

(c) *Appeals procedure for claims submitted by Marine Corps personnel.* Where any of the Marine Corps adjudication authorities listed in § 751.8(b) fail to

grant the relief requested, or otherwise resolve the claim the satisfaction of the claimant, the request for reconsideration shall be forwarded together with the entire original file and the adjudicating authority's recommendation, to the Judge Advocate General.

§§ 751.16–751.20 [Reserved]

Subpart B—Demand On Carrier, Contractor, or Insurer

§ 751.21 Scope of subpart B.

Subpart B addresses the recovery process for loss or damage occurring during the storage or transport of household goods and other personal property for which military personnel and civilian employees were paid under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3721. The authority for pursuing recovery action is found at 31 U.S.C. 3711.

§ 751.22 Carrier recovery: In general.

(a) *Responsibility.* Recovery of amounts due for personal property lost or damaged while in transit or in storage at Government expense is a joint Personal Property Office/Naval Legal Service Office responsibility. In order to establish liability and to effectively pursue a recovery claim against a carrier, warehouseman, or other third party, it is essential that all required action be accomplished in an expeditious manner. Failure of the property owner or any Government agent to exercise diligence in the performance of duties may render collection of the claim impossible and thereby deprive the Government of rightful revenue. Claims approving and settlement authorities will ensure that all actions required of the property owner and naval personnel are accomplished promptly.

(b) *Elements of collection.* There are four elements in the successful assertion and collection of a recovery claim. They are:

- (1) Proving that a transit loss occurred;
- (2) Determining who had responsibility for the goods at the time of the transit loss;
- (3) Calculating the amount of damages; and